



PEAKS



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NANCY SCOFIELD OMEGA STATE WEBMASTER



I was born and raised in Pueblo, Colorado, the older daughter of Paul and Anita Denton. I left high school a year early to attend York College (NE) and graduated with an AA at the age of 18. I then continued my education at the University of Southern Colorado (now CSU-P), completing a BA in English with a Secondary Education teaching license. In 2002 I had the opportunity to pursue a Master’s degree, which I obtained from Lesley University (MA) in 2004 (M.Ed. in Educational Technology).

I began teaching English at Pueblo Community College in January 1992 as an adjunct instructor, and I still enjoy continuing in that role today, teaching a technical writing course online. I began working full-time at PCC in January 2014 as the Instructional Designer for the eLearning department. I love my job!

I taught English at Rye High School from 2001-2013, primarily 11th and 12th grades. Back in 1993 I did a one-semester gig teaching kindergarten at Pikes Peak Christian School in Colorado Springs. That was a lot of fun and hard work! I also taught Sunday School for 4 & 5 year-olds for 18 years. Lots of wonderful memories there, too.

I married my dear husband Lee in 2005, and we have made our home in Colorado City. I have two grown children--Alex is 26 years old, married, with 3 wonderful children, Matthew, Adam, and Harper, and my daughter Brianna is 24 years old and engaged to be married. When I married Lee I also gained his son Casey, who is married with two daughters, Maddie and Lilly.

My favorite activities are reading, crocheting, and paper crafts. Of course, nothing beats spending time with my precious grandchildren!

I have been a member of Beta Chapter since May 2013 and have enjoyed meeting so many wonderful women who have encouraged me and been great examples to follow.

Congratulations Nancy for your diligence in working to complete the International certification for our new Omega State Website. This took countless hours of working with officers, chairpersons, and administrative personnel.

Please visit the website and look for the seal at the bottom of the home page:

<http://dkgcolorado.weebly.com/>



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WHO IS IN CHARGE HERE?

by Dr. Sue Pettit
Omega State President

It doesn't take long to figure out who is in charge when you walk into a classroom. I taught at the middle school level in the Waterloo Community Schools for twenty years. When I share this information with my DKG Sisters, I often get mixed reviews. Most often, I am told that I am a saint for working at that level for so long. I laugh at the idea and at what I did for a living, and know that deep inside I am still a 7th grader at heart. One of the major reasons I got along so well at such a tough level and challenging district is that I recognized who was in charge in the classroom. We were all in charge, motivated by our deepest needs to lead a productive and meaningful day.

That is one of the reasons that I most love this organization. It is a member led and democratic microcosm where each affiliate drives the direction and quality of the whole. We are each responsible for our piece, large or small, whether we are having success or failure. Although it is easy to think of ourselves as individual members and chapters, each member participates in sharpening or dulling our larger message and fulfilling the impact that we are having on the American landscape.

Last night at our Beta Chapter meeting, we had 12 teacher visitors. Rosie Bonan, our chapter president, and Linda Pitts and the Projects Committee have designed a celebratory February meeting each year where our members invite community teachers to an appreciation party. Every teacher leaves with a goody bag and the whole evening is about celebrating their hard work. During the meeting, the teachers introduce themselves and many of our members share their love of the Society. Although we are never sure if anyone will join; after this party, 7 of last night's invitees expressed an interest and Linda will follow up on each one. Bette Lunn, who led the music, shared that she had had surgery the day before but did not want to miss out on the event. Her comment was, "You are all such an encouragement to me." I realized at that moment that I was in charge of making a contribution to this meeting.

I did not feel like singing and moving to the Hokey Pokey. I was tired and rather stressed about some of my responsibilities this week, but left the meeting laughing at myself and receiving no less than 7 thoughtful hugs and inquiries from my Sisters. Every hug and thoughtful conversation fueled and encouraged me. I awoke this morning ready to serve and move forward in my role for the Society. Pueblo had changed because of our chapter meeting. Like other chapters in the state, we have lost many members and struggle with keeping things going, but last night DKG made a difference in our community—to our teachers, to our members, to me.

The Executive Board met on Saturday, March 19 at the Lonetree, South Park Marriott to look at our Strategic Action Plan and how to strengthen our profession. Please plan to attend our Leadership Conference in Colorado Springs June 10-12. It will matter if you attend. It will matter to all our members if you take the extra time to bring a chapter member that has not attended before. What a difference a day of purposeful living, leadership, and encouragement can make. It does matter if you complete your committee goals—large or small. I think that conversations and hugs count as committee work! It does matter when you take the time to complete even the smallest task or make a connection with another teacher or member. **Be in Charge!**

OMEGA STATE OFFICERS 2015-2017

President—Dr. Sue Pettit

1st Vice President—Shirley Organ

2nd Vice President—Brenda Wray

Recording Secretary—Memory Lamfer

Corresponding Secretary—Dr. Barbara Whinery

Executive Secretary—Cynthia Mousel

Treasurer--Lilly Vigil

Editor—Farabe Smith

Webmaster—Nancy Scofield

Parliamentarian—Susan Denny

Archivist—Kathy Flynn

Immediate Past President—Beth Barzdukas

~*~*~ *OMEGA STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE* ~*~*~

*You are invited to join Omega State and Host Chapters;
Pi and Alpha Upsilon
for
Informative Workshops, Fellowship and Laughter
at
The 2016 Omega State Leadership Conference
from
June 10-12, 2016
at
The Franciscan Retreat Center
7740 Deer Hill Grove
Colorado Springs, CO 80919
visit*

~*~*~ www.franciscanretreatcenter.org/ ~*~*~

INTERNATIONAL GUEST SANDRA SMITH BULL ATTENDS LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Getting to Know Sandra Smith Bull



A University of Texas at Austin freshman advisor nipped a career in archeology in the bud by making a history/education major out of a very young and malleable South Houston girl named Sandra Smith. We'll never know if the world of archeology's loss was an important one. Sandra's gain was the opportunity to embark on a very rewarding journey in education, first as a classroom teacher and then as a librarian. Sandra loved every minute of her work in the library: the challenge of enticing young adults into becoming life-long readers, the changing role of technology in the library, the excitement of new questions to be researched – it was a wonderful way to spend 25 years.

Another reward of a career in education was meeting her soul mate. When Sandra went to West Texas to teach in the late 60's, the first person she met was a young administrator named Eddie Bull. They married in 1970 and soon after, moved back to Austin, Texas, to pursue advanced degrees. In 1972 their only child, Ryan, was born.

Sandra has never been what you would call athletic. Her idea of strenuous exercise is bending to the back of the freezer to find the Cherry Garcia. She disliked camping so much that as soon as one Boy Scout family campout was over, she would try to find excuses to miss the next one. Nor is she artistic. While she enjoys watching her friends' excitement with creative hobbies, the most creative thing she has ever accomplished was motherhood (and her son could probably offer some intriguing insights into her success in this area). She has, however, always enjoyed walking. She loves to travel, particularly with her husband, since they both enjoy visiting art galleries and museums and bakeries with equal fervor. She does encourage Eddie's hobby, which is cooking. And she has collected a large library of cookbooks to help him along. She loves her friends and discussing movies and books over a leisurely meal is her idea of heaven on earth. She treasures a contemplative prayer group she co-facilitates and a book discussion group which she misses only when her Delta Kappa Gamma duties take her away from Austin. She collects black and white movies and crazily enough loves to iron (preferably while watching an old movie). Reading is her one true recreational love and her tastes are

see Sandra Smith Bull p. 4

WANTED

The Omega State Nominations committee needs your help. We would like you to begin considering recommendations for State Officers and Nominations Committee Representatives. State Officers will serve for the 2017-2019 biennium.

Officers needed are President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary.

State President Shall:

- -have served on the State Executive Board within the last six (6) years,
- -have served as Chapter president,
- -have state committee experience,
- -have attended state and regional conferences/conventions,
- -have interest and time for this position,
- -have organizational ability and the ability to delegate,
- -be able to speak well and communicate effectively.

First Vice-President shall:

- -have served on the State Executive Board within the last six (6) years,

Area II, III, IV need to nominate one (1) representative each, to serve on the Omega Nominations Committee for four (4) years. (2017-2021) The following chapters lie within those areas.

Area II: Epsilon, Omicron, Upsilon, Alpha Sigma

Area III: Delta, Theta, Kappa, Alpha Eta, Alpha Nu, Alpha Rho, Alpha Psi

Area IV: Alpha, Gamma/Psi, Pi, Alpha Beta, Alpha Gamma, Alpha Theta, Alpha

Upsilon

The role of the Nominations Committee is to seek the best leadership available, present the slate of officers, prepare the ballot and conduct the election.

Check with chapter members as to their interest in serving at the state level and get their permission before nominating them for office. All nominees are nominated by their chapter and all pertinent information and letters of support need to be sent to the Nominations Committee Chairman. Nomination forms can be downloaded at dkg.org Omega State Website and will be available to state presidents at the 2016 Omega State Spring Executive Board Meeting.

Completed Nominations Forms need to be submitted by **November 17, 2016** and sent to:

Laurie Salazar, Nominations Committee Chairman

885 County Road 311

Ignacio, Colorado 81137

lsalazar@frontier.net

← cont. from p.3

SANDRA SMITH BULL

eclectic (even including an occasional semi-trashy novel). She is very interested in the study of spirituality in the workplace; has collected quite an extensive library on the subject, and has given a workshop or two in this area.

Sandra is a charter member of Lambda Iota chapter in the Texas State Organization. She has held almost every office in the chapter and is very proud of receiving the chapter's achievement award. She has been an Area Coordinator for Alpha State Organization and has chaired the State Nominations Committee, the Membership Committee, the Leadership Development Committee for Chapter Presidents and has served as corresponding secretary. Winning an Alpha State Achievement Award was a true highlight in her Delta Kappa Gamma career, as was being a participant in the 1999 Golden Gift Leadership/Management Seminar. Sandra won the International Achievement Award in 2008 in Chicago and for once was absolutely speechless. Delta Kappa Gamma has offered Sandra countless opportunities for personal growth, community involvement and professional mentorship.

Sandra is an optimist, a romantic, a dreamer, a contemplative leader, and a pragmatic planner. She believes in personal development over casting stones. She is an organizer who prizes peace but will choose battles carefully and when she has chosen will hang on tenaciously. She despises hypocrisy and gossip, and believes humor can be a most effective crutch, tool and safety net. She does not think Delta Kappa Gamma has seen its best days. She feels strongly that with strategy, creativity and plain old common sense we can fashion an association of the 21st century with precious ties to the past but vibrant, relevant, noble goals for the future. She hopes to be around for a while to watch those goals explode into action.

2016 Honor Roll Recipient Announced



Cheryl Barnett, Honor Roll Award from Mu Chapter

Mu Chapter is proud to present the Honor Roll Award to Cheryl Barnett. President, Cheryl Barnett has served us very well over a six-year period, 2010-2016. For three biennia, Cheryl has provided leadership in meeting planning, decision-making, and the general workings of our chapter. She has dutifully provided excellent communication and has welcomed the voices of all members on all issues. Cheryl has been an excellent president who serves with dignity and grace and is dedicated to the success of Mu Chapter. She has also served as Mu Chapter scholarship chair, program chair, vice president, new teacher orientation and Adopt-A-Classroom.

Cheryl is a former arts coordinator for the St. Vrain Valley Schools, a pastor of her church, a musician and artist, an advocate for the arts in Longmont, and a wife, mother and grandmother. Husband, Gary, is also a retired teacher.

At the state level, Cheryl serves on the Music Arts and Humanities Committee and organized Omega State's art exhibit at the leadership conference in 2014 in Grand Junction and again at the state convention in 2015 in Highlands Ranch.

PHI CHAPTER MEMBERS HONORED FOR PHOTOGRAPHY

by Kathy Parker

Loretta Kerr (Phi Chapter Co-President) and Toni Cook (Phi Chapter member) were selected to exhibit their photography at the February First Friday Art Show held at the Idea Place in Rocky Ford. The opening for the exhibit and a reception were held Friday, February 5th, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Their artwork was on display at the Idea Place for the month of February. Congratulations to Loretta and Toni for this honor.

Loretta Kerr:

My early interest in photography began when I wanted to take photos of plants and animals for use in my life science classroom.

After retiring, my interest in photography was renewed while I was doing educational consulting work, but this time it was digital photography.

While wintering in southern California in 2006, my friend, Toni Cook, captured pictures of beautiful big roses. Upon her return home she and I learned how to use a digital imaging software program to edit her photos for use in making greeting cards. That same summer I entered two photos in the Open Class Photography Division at the Arkansas Valley Fair and surprisingly won two first place ribbons. Over the years since that debut I have been honored to receive several champion and reserve champion ribbons as well as one grand champion and one reserve grand champion ribbon on my entries.

Growing up in southeast Colorado, I learned to appreciate the blossoms of yucca, prickly pear cactus, wild morning glories, and other wildflowers. The rose pictures I exhibited in this show are all from my own raised gardens. At the root of my love of irises are those my maternal grandmother grew in her flower garden.

From the first crocus peeking through the snow in the spring to the last ice covered rose of fall, I'm on the lookout for that perfect shot to capture God's beauty in nature.

Toni Cook:



Because I have always been a saver, photography is a part of my life. Whenever I see a spectacular view or something interesting, I appreciate it in the moment; however, I want to "save" it. Photography affords the opportunity to preserve the image. As I have gotten older I cherish the thousands of pictures I have taken which, then in turn, allow the memories to reappear.

Many years ago I began scrapbooking to compile the stories told by the photographs of family and friends and special events in our lives. More recently I have found great pleasure in making and sharing note cards made from my photographs.

I hope the photographs included in this exhibit will tell you something about me and my interests which include my child and granddaughters, love of nature, beautiful scenery, flowers, carousels, light houses and water. My late husband, Mel, and I were very fortunate to have had the opportunity to experience many miles in our motorhome exploring the beautiful country we live in and to also do some foreign travel. Photos from Belgium, Holland, and Mexico, as well as those from coast to coast and border to border of the continental United States and Alaska were included.



WHITE ROSES OF REMEMBRANCE

March Peaks, 2016

“She has left a part of herself with those she loved, with her colleagues, and with all of us.”

Delta Kappa Gamma Ceremonies Book

Beverly Biffle	Alpha, Denver	July 7, 2015
Beth Grenfell	Alpha Beta, Denver	August 7, 2015
Judy Jaramillo	Alpha Beta, Denver	August 11, 2015
Betty Jo Reese	Gamma, Boulder	August 15, 2015
JoAnn Lucille Baillie	Alpha, Denver	October 23, 2015
Jan Raehal	Alpha Rho, Greeley	December 5, 2015
Yvonne Brown	Rho, Colorado Springs	December 20, 2015
Betty Farrington	Upsilon, Buena Vista	February 2016



by  **MEMBERSHIP MATTERS!! ARE YOU SHARING THE GIFT?**
 being Kathy Flynn, Omega State Membership Chair
 Chapters all across the Society are having success with the new membership plan promoted by International President, Dr. Lyn Schmid, and the membership committee.

HAS YOUR CHAPTER STARTED THE PROCESS?

THE PLAN IS SIMPLE. Members bring the names of qualified people in education to a meeting. These names of prospective members are carefully chosen by the members, providing as much information as possible about the candidate. If you have grandchildren, ask them and/or their parents about outstanding educational professionals. Who is the great teacher? Necessary information is: Name, position, school, background if known, the number of years in education, any information about their experience, accomplishments, honors, etc.

SCREEN AND INVITE / VOTE: The membership committee then screens the names submitted, the chapter votes to accept them as members. They are sent a letter that invites them to come learn more about DKG at an orientation and make a decision on becoming a member. **ARRANGE FOR AN INITIATION AND WELCOME THEM IN.** That was easy, right?

TIPS FOR GROWING MEMBERSHIP AND BROADENING YOUR CHAPTER

****DO NOT ASSUME THAT A PERSON IS TOO BUSY TO BE OFFERED MEMBERSHIP.** Give them a chance to act on membership by issuing them an invitation. It is a validation of worth and acceptance.

****ASK MORE THAN ONCE OR TWICE.** Keep revisiting the idea of membership and ask, “Are you ready now?” Keep in contact. We never know when a person will decide on membership.

****SHARE YOUR VISION AND PURPOSES FOR DKG.** Individuals want to have a chance to belong to an organization that has purposes, active projects, and regularly makes a difference in the education community. Give them a chance to feel really useful and let them dream. Examples: service projects; Adopt A Classroom or School, book projects, assisting beginning teachers, scholarships, tutoring, helping in the classroom, reading to students.

****SHARE WITH THE PROSPECTIVE MEMBER HOW THE WORK YOU DO AFFECTS PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY.** Members want to know that they are making a difference, and their membership is worthwhile.

****PERSONAL OR PHONE CONTACT IS DESIRABLE.** Email works well, but personal is best.

***** EACH MEMBER GAINED IS AN ADDED ASSET TO YOUR CHAPTER.** Help new members feel welcome and needed. Getting and keeping members truly engaged is critical for our survival.

**** SEEK OUT MEMBERS WHO HAVE SHOWN SPECIFIC TALENTS.** All have individual talents which can fulfill specific roles.

**** ATTEMPT TO KEEP THE MEMBERSHIP DIVERSE.** Seek members from all walks and levels of educational expertise. Choose public school, private school, and parochial school teachers.

****PROMOTE MEMBERS. HONOR MEMBERS. MEMBERS ARE OUR REASON FOR BEING.**

CONTACT: Kathy Flynn, Omega State Membership Chair katherineaflynn@yahoo.com

OMEGA COMMITTEES AT WORK

EXPANSION COMMITTEE

by Janet McClaskey

Last fall, the Expansion Committee hosted a meeting for ladies interested in starting a DKG chapter in Douglas County. Expansion Committee members Sue Denny, Gail Therrien, and Janet McClaskey hosted five interested educators ranging in age from 22 to 72. The group included a retired librarian, a writing center coordinator, a first year paralegal who works with autistic boys, a college professor, and two coordinators of an after-school program that combines running with self-esteem. The group was bursting with ideas for programs: Seven Habits of Highly Effective People, leadership/personal development, empowerment for girls, mentoring programs, critical thinking made easy, writing across the curriculum, self-expression writing, school writing centers for high school, book-making--journaling, poetry in the classroom, researching carefully, service learning programs, psychology in the autistic classroom, and cooking fabulous Korean food. Two service ideas we're looking at are tutoring homeless students for GEDs and RAFT donations of school supplies for teachers. At our February 18 meeting, one of our new recruits is going to show us how to cook an appetizer and cook dinner for us, and we'll look at the International Information and pass out applications. With just a few more interested ladies, we'll apply for a charter. Wish us luck!

U.S. FORUM

by Dr. Mary Ann Roldan

The U.S. Forum, National Legislative Seminar (NLS), is held in Washington, DC in even numbered years. This year it will be held March 13-16, 2016. Dr. MaryAnn Roldan, Omega State U.S. Forum Chair, will be in attendance for the tenth time. She chaired the NLS in 2000 as National U.S. Forum Chair.

The purpose of the seminar is to inform and educate members on legislation impacting teachers, students and education. Members will learn about relevant issues of importance to education such as the changes in No Child Left Behind (NCLB) law. Many provisions related to educators, measured growth and early childhood education will be discussed to be brought back to local and state chapters. A Day on the Hill will provide attendees the opportunity to visit their Congressional Representatives and introduce them to DKG.

This event treats members to museums, memorials and "Moving Moments in American History." The Cherry Blossom Festival will begin on March 20, 2016.

OMEGA PEAKS WORLD FELLOWSHIP REPORT

LET'S EXPAND THE RIPPLE!

The World Fellowship committee continues to challenge members of Omega State to make donations to the DKG International World Fellowship fund. Monies that are donated help to promote the advancement of education for women around the world. Donations also serve to promote friendship and understanding between countries. It has a "Ripple Effect" of support that extends beyond the borders of the United States.

DKG International reports that since the fiscal year began on July 1, 2015, 6 Omega State chapters have contributed \$1,567.50 and donations at Omega State events total \$551.90. The grand total is \$2,119.40.

Way to go, Sisters!

However, the ripple has room to expand as there are 31 chapters in Omega State. The Omega State WF Committee encourages ALL chapters to make contributions to World Fellowships, causing the Ripple Effect to become a **SWEEPING SURGE** of support for women educators around the world!

Remember: Donations to DKG World Fellowships are tax deductible.

Omega State World Fellowship Committee members (2015-16)

- CH: Gail Fray
- Irma Boltman
- Rosie Jelden
- Mu – Longmont
- Alpha Gamma – Denver
- Alpha Rho – Greeley

- Dr. Mary Ann Roldan Beta - Pueblo

AROUND COLORADO

ZETA CHAPTER

(Denver-Adams County)

by Nancy McFaddin

Zeta Chapter Celebrations

Three Zeta members attended the Omega State Convention, Vivian Harvey, Ethel Clow and Sheila Fritze. Ethel Clow also attended the Southwest Regional Convention. Through the work and participation of our active members on the biennial reports and other required activities, Zeta received the Four-Star Chapter Award again this year.

Zeta's Philanthropic project is **Precious Child**. We held our September meeting at their facility in Broomfield and had a very interesting tour of the comprehensive and effective community outreach serving both children and adults. Our yearbook up-dated pages for 2015-2016 were distributed to the membership and we voted to accept a dues increase.

Our annual fundraising activity in October involves a day-trip to Blackhawk with a special thanks to Jackie Bell for organizing this fun day of both socializing and feeding the treasury, over \$500 was raised. Zeta shares the proceeds with another group who also shares the bus.

Sheila Fritze continues to work toward Zeta's own web site and encourages members to participate on Facebook with both DKG's International and Omega State Facebook pages.

Our November meeting included a program speaker on "Human Trafficking", a very real and serious problem in our society. One of Zeta's members, Mary Boughton, is actively involved

with the *Peanut Butter Players*, and performed in a production of "Elf".

December was our annual Christmas Brunch with delicious homemade items and baked goodies along with crafts. Members were encouraged to visit thrift stores to buy children's books for **Precious Child**.

The New Year was kicked off with a productive business meeting and a great presentation by "Kevin" about the Wild Animal Sanctuary in Keansburg CO.

We look forward each year to attend the Tri-Chapter meeting in February—it's a highlight of the year for many DKG sisters!



AT THE TRI-CHAPTER MEETING
Standing, left to right: Cynthia Ziegler, Mary Archuleta, Nancy McFaddin, Carol Tebo, Elizabeth Price

Seated, left to right: Ethel Clow, Cynthia Mousel, Vivian Harvey
nancyandarlen@comcast.net
303.426.8165

ALPHA CHI CHAPTER

(Vail, Avon, Eagle, Edwards)

by Kathy Hall

Fours years ago Alpha Chi Chapter in Eagle County adopted an Early Career Teacher from one of our high schools. That teacher quickly realized how valuable it was to be a part of DKG and joined immediately. Alpha Chi continues to adopt an educator each year and they've all

appreciated the wealth of knowledge and support our members provide. From baskets of much-needed supplies to reading resources and funding for a science center, all of the Early Career Teachers come to understand how important it is to become a member of a group with a deep knowledge of education and a love of helping others. This years' Early Career Educator, Tess Gardner, received help with purchasing a listening center for her classroom. Tess is a second year teacher at Avon Elementary School where she has a great group of 3rd graders in the school's Dual Language program. Tess writes, "Although teaching is a difficult job, I am blessed to have it and to work where I do. I am learning that teaching is a learning process in itself and there is always going to be some method for refinement. I am thankful for the support I have already found in my teaching career." Alpha Chi loves the enthusiasm the Early Career teachers bring to the group and we plan on supporting this program in our chapter.

CHI CHAPTER

(Montrose-Delta)

by Wendy Burrell



Tona Arnold and her dog Karma, pose for a photo after Tona's presentation to Chi Chapter at the February meeting in Montrose.

Tona outlined the School of Innovation program being implemented at Montrose's Centennial Middle School this year. Tona is a counselor at Centennial, and Karma is her faithful sidekick.

In other news, two of Chi Chapter's members have been nominated from the Montrose/Olathe School District as candidates for Teacher of the Year. Congratulations Doris Swihart and Kristal Benson!
Jerwen1948@gmail.com 970-249-2560

BETA CHAPTER (Pueblo)

by Linda Pitts

Beta Chapter "Appreciates" Teachers

Beta Chapter held our fourth annual "Teacher Appreciation" event, Thursday, February 11, at the Lamb Library in Pueblo. We invited all the women teachers at Baca Elementary School, the school we have adopted this year. In addition several of our members invited other teacher friends. Twenty-four responded saying they would come, but due to some district events, illness and family emergencies only twelve were able to attend. Seven of those indicated they would like more information about becoming a member of Delta Kappa Gamma!

Favors were given to each guest as they arrived. Following refreshments and a brief business meeting led by President Rosie Bonan, a drawing was held for a variety of gift bags prepared by members of the Projects Committee and others who participated in the planning. As each guest's name was drawn, she was introduced and then selected one of the gift bags to take home.

A special drawing was held for those members who had brought a guest. Jaime Quinn was the happy recipient of that gift.

We all enjoyed meeting new friends and renewing some old acquaintances. This has been an effective tool for our chapter in recognizing teachers and also securing new members.

Alpha Chapter (Denver)

by Debbie Francis

As is true with most chapters, we struggle with maintaining a surplus treasury that we can use to pay for quality programs at our monthly meetings. This year we decided to try offering something special at each of our meetings. We asked members to consider donating a basket of items, or something unique that we could give with our normal door prizes. We call them "Donation Dollar Baskets". Any members who are attending our monthly meeting, are offered the opportunity to donate to our chapter by placing whatever monetary amount they want into the "kitty". When the time comes to draw names for the door prizes, the basket of items is also given out. What is donated is used for supplementing our lunches and programs. It has been very successful!

Each month we have been able to offer something unique for our members. In September, a beautiful flower arrangement was donated by a member who also had done the program on flower arranging. In October, two members provide a basket of relaxation items. In November (see picture) a beautiful necklace was donated by one of our members who sells Premier Jewelry. In December, a beautiful

basket of holiday items and goodies was provided, and in February, a basket of yummy chocolates was given. We are now planning a basket of fun summer reading. It is such a fun way to help our chapter, and gives members a chance to be involved!



PHI CHAPTER (La Junta, Las Animas, Rocky Ford)

by Kathy Parker

Is Human Trafficking someone else's problem or is it our problem and in our own community? According to information in CoNEHT (Colorado Network to End Human Trafficking), our own Otero County has been identified as a place in Colorado where exploitation or human trafficking has taken place between 2008 and 2014.

After hearing the human trafficking presentation at the 2015 Omega State Convention, Phi Chapter scheduled a guest speaker on this topic.



Mr. Edgar Balzac, a grant paralegal for the Trafficking Project through the Denver Office of Colorado Legal Services, presented Phi Chapter’s February program. Mr. Balzac is a licensed attorney in his native country of Puerto Rico. Members were encouraged to invite guests and the event was advertised in the local newspapers inviting members of the community to hear him as well.

Human Trafficking is not the same as smuggling as it does not require transportation across state or country borders and may involve U. S. citizens and/or foreign nationals. Human trafficking is a severe form of exploitation of another person involving force, fraud, or coercion for labor or commercial sexual purposes.

Red flags for human trafficking include:

- A highly controlled work setting, failure to pay wages, or forced work to pay a debt,
- Withholding of personal identification documents,
- Threats of, or actual verbal, physical, or sexual abuse by an employer, refusal to treat work-related injuries,

- Forced illegal activity for profit, especially involving LGBT, foreign national, and other at-risk populations (e.g. prostitution, drug smuggling/sales),
- Mistreatment of children or other relatives involving restriction of movement, domestic servitude, servile marriage and/or forced illegal activity.

If you suspect Human Trafficking or would like resources, contact the CoNEHT toll-free, 24/7, statewide hotline at 1-866-455-5075.

ALPHA IOTA
(Jefferson County)

by Carol Drollinger

Hidden in Plain Site-Human Trafficking was the topic for our November program. Some of us had seen the break-out session at the June Convention in Denver. Our speaker, Sue Ricker, gave us a shocking picture of young women and girls caught in the web of sex trafficking. She showed the video, Nightline with Diane Sawyer, The Chilling New Look at Sex Trafficking. (12 minutes) Her information is current and powerful.

Her own experience in volunteering stressed that Colorado has a serious problem because of our Interstate Highway system, making truck stops and other crowded places a haven for traffickers. She stressed that there is some good news. Colorado is recognized as the most improved state with effective recent legislation and programs that prosecute predators and work to rehabilitate victims.

She is willing to present her information or to recommend someone close to your Chapter. If

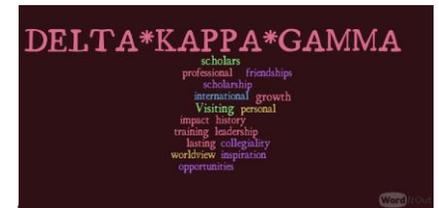
you would like more information, call Carol Drollinger [720-863-8087](tel:720-863-8087), email cj.Drollinger@gmail.com.r Diedra Tidwell [303-671-6435](tel:303-671-6435), email DiedraT45@aol.com.

She said that we can all do something. What can we do? Be aware, spread the word.

- Support legislation that addresses this concern.
- Contact your local police or sheriff’s department.
- Call the National Hotline [\(1\) 888-373-7888](tel:1-888-373-7888)
- Get information at info@PolarisProject.org

ETA
(Colorado Springs)
by Maxine Fawcett-Yeske

Eta Chapter had an especially diverse set of programs for our fall



2015 meetings. The September gathering was devoted to identifying what we consider the essence of DKG membership and then converting that into an elevator speech. If you had 30 seconds to tell someone about the benefits of DKG membership, what would you say? The attributes we identified as most meaningful were personal and professional growth, scholarships for further education, collegiality, international impact, lasting friendships, leadership training, inspiration, an expanded worldview, a sense of history, portable memberships, and visiting scholars.

At our October meeting our chapter secretary Kristina Kafka

did a presentation on the Laurie Gabrielle documentary entitled *Heal Our Schools*, which examines some of the critical issues facing education today. The video contains a wealth of interviews with teachers as well as individuals critical of teachers. It was interesting hearing the different perspectives which served as a point of departure for our lively discussion following the presentation.

Eta Chapter celebrated National Native American Heritage Month in November with a program presented by Brad Bearheart and the Bearheart Dancers of Monument, Colorado. Brad talked about teaching his children traditional dances and how this is one way of keeping the Native American legacy alive. The Bearheart family also conducts a Toy and School Supply Drive each year, then delivers the toys and supplies to children and families on the Pine Ridge and Standing Rock Reservations for the holidays. DKG Eta Chapter generously donated over 75 items for this cause.



Our December meeting was graced with a program presented by the Celebration Multicultural Ensemble, a group founded by music teacher and philanthropist Mrs. Peggy Shivers of Colorado Springs and devoted to performing African-American spirituals and gospel music. Eta Chapter President Maxine Fawcett-Yeske

has been a member of this group for over three years. After the mini-concert, the Chapter conducted its Bountiful Basket Auction and fundraiser which collected nearly \$1,000 in donations for our grant-in-aid account, ending 2015 on an especially high note!



DELTA CHAPTER
(Greeley)
by Dr. Barbara Whinery
Holiday Celebrations!



Delta Chapter hosted a Holiday Brunch on December 5, 2015, at the home of Mrs. Dorothy Benner for Alpha Rho Chapter and invited guests. The two Greeley chapters take turns hosting a holiday event every other year. There were approximately 30 members and two guests who participated. The party theme was angels. In addition to numerous trees and Christmas decorations, Dorothy shared her angel collection displayed throughout the house with everyone. The program included two poems written and shared by Mary Lauck of Delta, entitled, "Angels of Impossible Grace" and "One Simple Angel."

Reverend Carol Opdycke of Delta led two activities, one in which we talked about angels we had brought with us and a second in which we shared "angel" experiences we have had. It was a very festive occasion enjoyed by everyone.

A break was taken to recognize and present Delta Chapter's semi-annual Early Career Educator Award of \$100 to Kaela Yoder to help with classroom materials. Kaela is a first year kindergarten/first grade teacher at Dayspring School in Greeley. She is a graduate of the University of Northern Colorado. Also present, first recipient of our EEC Award, Betsy Henderson, who is a fourth year transfer teacher from Mississippi at Winograd K-8, Greeley. She was recognized for her outstanding performance as a middle school Literacy/Language Arts teacher. Her students have constantly attained high scores on state tests in that subject area.



Left to right: Kaela Yoder (2015 EEC Award Recipient), Maxine Sims (Delta Chapter), and Betsy Henderson (Past EEC Award Recipient).

MU CHAPTER

(St. Vrain Valley, Longmont)

by Kathy Flynn



Initiations: Mu Chapter has initiated four new members and had one reinstatement this past few months. Recent initiates, Lorynda Samson and Rhonda Tucker are pictured here with Susan Burnett-Vice President, Martha Ramos-Vice President, Kathy Flynn-Past President, and Cheryl Barnett, President.

Lorynda is principal of Northridge Elementary and was Colorado Teacher of the Year 2003. Rhonda is a social studies teacher at Niwot H.S.



Leadership Panel: Programs that have been highlights include a district-administrator leadership panel organized by Susan Burnett, moderator. Susan asked the panel questions about testing, common core, classroom issues, and funding. The panel was knowledgeable and shed light on education in a most meaningful way. Panel members were assistant superintendents, Mark Mills and Connie Syferd, Superintendent Dr. Don Haddad, and Director of Human Resources, Dina Perfetti-Deany. Pictured here

is also Susan Burnett, Mu vice-president.



Legislative Update with Speaker of the House, Dickey Lee Hullinghorst (Boulder):

(Pictured: Martha Ramos, Speaker Hullinghorst, Joan Martin and President Cheryl Barnett) Mu chapter welcomed the Speaker and Martha Ramos, Mu vice president, interviewed her with timely questions grouped in four categories: Teacher Issues, including attacks on PERA; Teacher/Student issues, primarily testing and common core; the political process and how some issues are passed and others die in committee; and finally, women's issues such as pay equity. Speaker Hullinghorst also shared that state taxes haven't been raised in 20+ years. On an interesting side-note, Martha Ramos and Speaker Hullinghorst were involved in non-profit programs together and have been friends for 40 years. Member Joan Martin brought a notebook kept by her father-in-law when he was in the legislature many years ago. Speaker Hullinghorst's husband, Bob, recently retired as the long-time treasurer of Boulder County. The Speaker has a long history in public service before joining the legislature. This was our annual joint meeting with AAUW.

RHO CHAPTER

(Colorado Springs, Rush, Yoder, Calhan, Simla)

by Farabe Smith

Rho's annual old-fashioned box lunch was held on February 13 at the Central United Methodist Church. This is always one of the most fun meetings of the year. Each member brings a delicious lunch in wonderful boxes and baskets. Then a member acts as auctioneer with lots of fun comments about the lunches. The proceeds are added to our scholarship fund.

Each year the program for this fun event is presented by someone from the Ronald McDonald House in Colorado Springs. There are always several heart-rending stories about children who are facing life-threatening illness and how the House is able to help the families. Rho members always bring items requested in the Ronald McDonald House newsletter to this meeting. Rho Chapter also collects pop tabs throughout the year to donate to the House. We get tabs from the Miami Yoder School and Edison School as well as those our members collect. The Ronald McDonald House is able to sell these pop tabs for income. Go to Ronald McDonald House on the Internet to see more information.



DKG Educational Foundation Hosts Nashville Event at the Wildhorse

CPDaugherty/January 24, 2016

Dust off your western wear and boots as you pack for Nashville this summer! The DKG Educational Foundation (DKGEF) will sponsor *Call Me Country* at the world-famous **Wildhorse Saloon** during the 2016 DKG International Convention. All DKG members and their guests are urged to purchase tickets when registering for the convention, either online (www.dkg.org) or using the registration form found in the Jan./Feb. issue of the *DKG News*.

Plan to spend Thursday evening, July 7th in the **Wildhorse Saloon** located in the heart of Nashville's entertainment district. This three-level historic warehouse has been converted into a 66,000 sq. ft. country music dance hall, restaurant, concert hall, and TV production site. Horse sculptures and murals dominate the décor with many positioned for optimal "selfie" opportunities! The extensive "all-you-can-eat" buffet on levels two and three features award-winning BBQ selections and numerous side dishes.

The first floor features space for performances by a live band and a DJ, as well as line dance instruction for those wanting to kick up their heels. Besides dining seating, the second and third floors include cash bars and a variety of entertainment venues ranging from billiards to shuffle board to big screen TVs. Use your visit to the **Wildhorse** as an opportunity to wander in and out of all the famous clubs and shops located in the area – with a ride home to the Opryland Hotel provided at your convenience.

Your ticket (\$165) includes:

- transportation (buses will run every 20 minutes between the Wildhorse Saloon and the Opryland Hotel)
- access to all levels and activities
- entertainment – DJ, live band, line dance instruction, dance floor
- dinner buffet
- a tax deductible donation to the Foundation

Purchase tickets for the DKGEF *Call Me Country* event on the Convention Registration Form and join your friends for a "get-down good time" at the **Wildhorse** in Nashville!



The **Wildhorse Saloon** welcomes YOU to Nashville!

International Convention
Nashville, Tennessee July 5--9

Y'ALL COME!

Leadership Conference Training Topics:

Benefits of Membership
Successful Chapter Practices
Blue Sky Thinking
Relax and Lead at the Same Time!
Find and Utilize DKG Resources
How to Best Use the Strategic Action Plan
How to Interpret and Use Chapter Rules and the State and International Ruling Documents
Use Music and Art to Enrich Your Chapter
How Does this Work?: Parliamentary Procedure
Treasurers and Their Responsibilities
Educational Excellence
Personal and Professional Growth Makes a Difference for You and Your Members
World Connections: Schools for Africa
Legislative Issues: How Your Chapter Can Have an Impact on Education
Favorite Reads for the Year
Have fun at the Star Party and Pajama Party
Take part in a Talent Show
International Speaker and Updates
Millennial Fun, This Organization is for YOU!
Presidents' Panel and Creating a Dynamic Calendar
How to Recruit and Keep a Healthy Membership

YOU ARE THE  IN THE DKG CONSTELLATION



Omega State Leadership Registration Form

June 10-12, 2016

**Franciscan Retreat Center
7740 Deer Hill Grove, Colorado Springs, CO**

******Please use a separate form for each person******

PHOTO RELEASE: By your attendance at this event, you are granting permission to be filmed, videotaped, audio taped, or photographed by any means and are granting full use of your likeness without compensation.

Name _____ Phone _____
Mailing Address _____
City _____ Zip Code _____
Email _____ Chapter _____
Chapter Office/Committee _____ State Office _____
First Time Attending? Yes No
Free 1 CEU Credit? Yes No (Must attend full conference for CEU Credit-18 contact hrs.)

Registration Deadline: Wed., May 25, 2016 (Registration fee not refunded after May 25)

\$ _____ Registration Fee - \$75 - Member Non-Member - \$85
\$ _____ Late Fee: Add \$20 (if postmarked after May 25, 2016)

MEALS: Please list any dietary restrictions.

Enter number of meals and total amount for that meal.

_____	\$ _____	\$14.00 - Friday, Dinner
_____	\$ _____	\$10.00 – Saturday, Breakfast
_____	\$ _____	\$12.50 - Saturday, Lunch
_____	\$ _____	\$14.00 – Saturday, Dinner/Banquet
_____	\$ _____	\$10.00 - Sunday, Breakfast
_____	\$ _____	\$10.00 - Sunday, Deli Lunch
_____	\$ _____	Food total (Meals not refunded after May 25st)

\$ _____ **Total Due** Make checks payable to: **Delta Kappa Gamma**

Send registration to: Becky Dague, 7124 W. Walden Dr., Littleton, CO 80128

Lodging available at the Franciscan Retreat Center: (all single beds) Rooms for 1 (\$65), 2 (\$75), and 3 (\$85). Combinations with shared bath available. Get your group together and contact Brenda Wray, 303-922-0905 to make reservations. Select your room. First come, first served!

REMINDER FOR CHAPTER PRESIDENTS – FORM 6

It is very important that each death of a member be reported as soon as possible on Form 6 for Death of a Member. Please work with your membership chairs to promptly report to all three of the following:

International: International Membership Services: NitaS@dkg.org or mem@dkg.org

Omega State Membership Chair: Kathy Flynn: katherineaflynn@yahoo.com

Omega State Treasurer: Lilly Vigil: cmcr1@msn.com

See Colorado website
<http://dkgcolorado.weebly.com>

See International website
www.dkg.org
Talk to your chapter president or
Omega State President Sue Pettit
for passwords.

The Leadership Conference registration form can be filled in online by typing in the gray blanks. Save the copy to return to us by mail or email. Otherwise, it can just be printed, filled in and sent to Becky Dague.

**If you have not done so, send your e-mail address to:
promem@deltakappagamma.net**



Mission Statement

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

Society Purposes

1. To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship
2. To honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education
3. To advance the professional interest and position of women in education
4. To initiate, endorse, and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and of women educators
5. To endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to women educators from other countries
6. To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action
7. To inform the members of current economic, social, political, and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society.

Omega Peaks
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Contributors to the newsletter are asked to send news as soon as it is available to insure its placement in the next issue to:

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